

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel claims 17, 18, 60, 63, 67 and 70 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 3, 5-10, 19, 21, 33, 34, 38, 39, 62, 64, 68 and 69 as set forth below.

Please add new claims 71-74 as presented below.

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the present application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An isolated ~~HLA pan-DR-binding~~ peptide comprising a stress protein fragment that binds to a MHC class II molecule, wherein the fragment is up to having about 11 to 20 ~~30~~ amino acid residues wherein at least 9 amino acid residues of the peptide consist of a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, or SEQ ID NO: 23 in length and comprises a core sequence flanked at either end by at least one amino acid, wherein the core sequence has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of LSEKKISSI (SEQ ID NO:18), FQDAYVLLS (SEQ ID NO:20), LTTEAVVAD (SEQ ID NO:21), FLTTEAVVA (SEQ ID NO:22), and LTTEAEVVVT (SEQ ID NO:23), and wherein the fragment comprises a naturally occurring amino acid sequence.
2. (Previously Presented) An isolated peptide according to claim 1, wherein the peptide binds to HLADR1, DR4, and DR7.
3. (Currently Amended) An isolated peptide according to claim 1, wherein the ~~naturally occurring~~ amino acid sequence is selected from an amino acid sequence from human heat shock protein ~~and~~ or a bacterial heat shock protein.
4. (Previously Presented) An isolated peptide according to claim 3, wherein the bacterial heat shock protein is a mycobacterial heat shock protein.

5. (Currently Amended) An isolated peptide having about 11 to 20 amino acid residues and having according to claim 1, wherein the amino acid sequence of the peptide is at least 70% identical identity to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 5, 7, 8, and 9.
6. (Currently Amended) An isolated peptide having about 11 to 20 amino acid residues and having according to claim 5, wherein the amino acid sequence of the peptide is at least 80% identical identity to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 5, 7, 8, and 9.
7. (Currently Amended) An isolated peptide having about 11 to 20 amino acid residues and having according to claim 5, wherein the amino acid sequence of the peptide is at least 90% identical identity to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 5, 7, 8, and 9.
8. (Currently Amended) An isolated peptide having about 11 to 20 amino acid residues and having according to claim 1, wherein the amino acid sequence of the peptide is at least 95% identical identity to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 5, 7, 8, and 9.
9. (Currently Amended) An isolated peptide having about 11 to 20 amino acid residues and having according to claim 5, wherein the amino acid sequence of the peptide has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 5, 7, 8, and 9.
10. (Currently Amended) An isolated peptide according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 9, wherein the stress protein is a heat shock protein.
11. (Previously Presented) An isolated peptide according to claim 10, wherein the heat shock protein is a bacterial heat shock protein.

12. (Previously Presented) An isolated peptide according to claim 10, wherein the heat shock protein is a mycobacterium species heat shock protein.

13. (Previously Presented) An isolated peptide according to claim 12, wherein the mycobacterium species heat shock protein is hsp65.

14. (Previously Presented) An isolated peptide according to claim 10, wherein the heat shock protein is a mammalian heat shock protein.

15. (Previously Presented) An isolated peptide according to claim 14, wherein the mammalian heat shock protein is a human heat shock protein.

16. (Previously Presented) An isolated peptide according to claim 15, wherein the human heat shock protein is human hsp60.

Claims 17-18 (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) An isolated peptide according to claim ~~17~~ 1, wherein the ~~fragment~~ peptide is about 15 to ~~about~~ 20 amino acids in length.

20. (Previously Presented) An isolated peptide according to claim 1, wherein the peptide has one or more D- amino acid residues.

21. (Currently Amended) An isolated peptide according to claim ~~[[8]]~~ 1 that contains a conservative amino acid substitution at least one amino acid position in the peptide.

22. (Previously Presented) An isolated peptide according to claim 1, wherein the peptide is covalently linked to an adjuvant.

23. (Previously Presented) An isolated peptide according to claim 22, wherein the adjuvant is keyhole limpet hemocyanin, bovine serum albumin, human serum albumin, or isologous IgG.

24. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a peptide according to claim 1 in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claims 25-32 (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and an isolated peptide ~~comprising a fragment of a stress protein that binds to a MHC class II molecule, wherein the fragment is up to about 30 amino acid residues in length and comprises a core sequence flanked at either end by at least one amino acid, wherein the core sequence has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of LSEKKISSI (SEQ ID NO:18), FQDAYVLLS (SEQ ID NO:20), LTTEAVVAD (SEQ ID NO:21), FLTTEAVVA (SEQ ID NO:22), and LTAEVVT (SEQ ID NO:23), and wherein the fragment comprises a naturally occurring amino acid sequence according to claim 1.~~

34. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 33, wherein the ~~fragment~~ peptide binds to at least one molecule selected from the group consisting of HLADR1, DR4, and DR7.

Claims 35-37 (Canceled)

38. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim ~~[[34]]~~ 33, wherein the isolated peptide has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9.

39. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim ~~[[34]]~~ 33, further comprising a biological response modifier.

40. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 39, wherein the biological response modifier is selected from the group consisting of a cytokine, a chemokine, a hormone, a steroid, and an interleukin.

41. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 40, wherein the biological response modifier is an interferon.

42. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 39, wherein the biological response modifier is selected from the group consisting of IL-1(α or β), IL-2, IL-3, IL-4, IL-5, IL-6, IL-7, IL-8, IL-9, IL-10, IL-11, IL-12, GM-CSF, M-CSF, G-CSF, LIF, LT, TGF- β , γ -IFN, TNF-I, BCGF, CD2, and ICAM.

Claims 43-60 (Canceled)

61. (Previously Presented) An isolated peptide according to claim 1 that is chemically synthesized.

62. (Currently Amended) An isolated peptide according to claim 1 that is ~~synthesized~~ produced by recombinant expression.

63. (Canceled)

64. (Currently Amended) An isolated peptide according to claim 1 or 9 that is glycosylated.

65. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 33 that is a liquid formulation.

66. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 33 that is a solid formulation.

67. (Canceled)

68. (Currently Amended) An isolated peptide ~~of claim 67~~, wherein the amino acid sequence of the peptide consists of the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 6.

69. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and an isolated peptide, wherein the amino acid sequence of the peptide consists ~~essentially of~~ the amino acid sequence ~~of~~ as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 6.

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70. (Canceled)

71. (New) An isolated peptide, wherein the amino acid sequence of the peptide consists of the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2.

72. (New) A composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and an isolated peptide according to claim 71.

73. (New) An isolated peptide, wherein the amino acid sequence of the peptide consists of the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3.

74. (New) A composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and an isolated peptide according to claim 73.